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Md. General Assembly

MESSAGE

OF

FRANK BROWN,

GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AT ITS

REGULAR SESSION, JANUARY, 1894.

BALTIMORE:
KING BROTHERS, STATE PRINTERS.
1894.

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

STATE OF MARYLAND—EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

ANNAPOLIS, January 3, 1894.

To the General Assembly:

You have assembled in obedience to the Constitution to make provision for the wants of the government of a great Commonwealth, and to shape by enactment or repeal of statutory law the material fortunes of our people. Alive, I am sure, to the far-reaching importance of your great trust, no words of mine are needed to heighten your inflexible purpose to wisely administer this power of the people solely for their advancement and happiness. I trust that your work will result in the enhancement of the prosperity of the State, and to the benefit, not of a class, but of the whole people.

The Constitution of our State imposes upon me the duty of indicating to you at the opening of your session the condition of the State, and of recommending to you such measures as I may deem expedient. In pursuance of this duty, I lay before you the conclusions I have reached in an earnest effort to understand the condition of the State in its various departments and institutions, and to discover what, if any, changes will enhance its interests and secure its improvement.

Divine Providence has blessed our people during the past few years with fairly bountiful crops, good health and general prosperity.

The general condition of the State, as will be seen

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from the reports of the various departments, and from the presentations made herein, is satisfactory in a high degree. Law is observed and enforced throughout our borders, and upon the whole there is great reason for congratulations.

STATE FINANCES.

The report of the Comptroller for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1892, shows that there was a balance in the treasury on that date of.....	$ 482,048 46	
The report of the Comptroller for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1893, shows that the total receipts into the treasury during the year were.....	2,533,611 48	
Making the total amount available in the treasury during the year 1893 of...		$3,015,659 94
The report of the Comptroller for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1893, shows the total disbursements to be..	2,446,609 36	
Leaving a balance in the treasury on September 30, 1893, of.....		$569,050 58

COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR YEAR 1892 WITH THE YEAR 1893.

Receipts for the fiscal year 1893.....		$2,533,611 48
Receipts for the fiscal year 1892.....	$3,006,551 18	
Deduct amount received from U. S. Government in settlement of old claim.....	$371,299 63	

Aomunts brought forward...	$371,299 63	$3,006,551 18	$2,533,611 48
Amount received from sale of the Exchange Loan of 1891..	100,000 00		
Amount received from sureties of Stevenson Archer, ex-treasurer.	37,202 28		
		508,501 91	
Total ordinary receipts annually for the year 1892...			2,498,049 27
Gain in receipts for the year 1893 over receipts for the year 1892.....			$35,562 21

Disbursements for the fiscal year 1892...	$3,065,833 02
Deducting legislative expenses of..... .	142,738 77
Ordinary disbursements of 1892.	$2,923,094 25
Ordinary disbursements for the fiscal year 1893..... .	2,446,609 36
Net saving in expenses for 1893 as compared with 1892.....	$476,484 89

There have been purchased during the fiscal years 1892 and 1893 for the sinking funds securities as follows:

For General Sinking Fund..... ...	$191,045 83
" Defence Redemption Loan..... ..	681,287 50
" Exchange Loan of 1889.....	40,282 62
Total investments for Sinking Funds made during years 1892 and 1893....	$912,615 95

THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE STATE, SHOWING THE PRESENT LIABILITIES AND THE ESTIMATED VALUE OF HER ASSETS.

The original loans issued of 1886..	$1,898,829 10	Due	1900 and 1901.
The original loans issued of 1889..	3,079,400 00	"	1903.
The original loans issued of 1891..	706,757 14	"	1905
Defence redemption loans issued of 1882.....	3,000,000 00	"	1899
Total.....			$8,684,986 24
Deduct amount of of said loans bought and held as sinking funds to meet loans at maturity.....	$2,185,706 71		
Credit amount of Baltimore City Stock and Frederick City Bonds owned and held by the State to meet loans. (Face value)....	715,381 32		
			$2,901,088 03
			$5,783,898 21

Amount brought forward.....		$5,783,898 21

ESTIMATED VALUE OF OTHER ASSETS.

5,500 Shares Preferred Stock Washington Branch of the B. & O. R. R.....	$1,100,000 00	
Stock of the Farmers' National Bank of Annapolis	70,000 00	
Stock of the Annapolis Water Company.....	30,000 00	
Mortgage of the Northern Central Railway Co.....	2,100,000 00	
Bonds of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal Co.	500,000 00	
Mortgage of the State Cattle Scales property	25,000 00	
Five Tobacco Warehouses and Wharves	500,000 00	
State Wharf at Pratt and Light streets, Baltimore.	25,000 00	
		$4,350,000 00
Estimated indebtedness of the State after deducting the fair market value of the available assets. ...		$1,433,898 21

INSTITUTIONS OF THE STATE, THE VALUES OF WHICH ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Maryland Penitentiary, Maryland Hospital for the Insane, Maryland School for the Blind, Asylum for the Feeble-Minded, Maryland House of Correction, Maryland State Normal School, Deaf and Dumb Asylum, half interest in Maryland Agricultural College, three pieces of property occupied as Hay Scales in Baltimore, and other interests in charitable institutions throughout the State.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR STATE PRISONS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS FOR THE YEARS 1892 AND 1893.

Asylum for the Feeble-Minded	$21,000 00
Boys' Home Society	3,000 00
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute	4,000 00
Baltimore Orphan Asylum	1,000 00
Baltimore City Hospital	10,000 00
Baltimore Day Nursery	1,000 00
Children's Country Home	2,000 00
Co-operative Workers of Baltimore City	2,000 00
The Deaf and Dumb Asylum	50,000 00
Colored Deaf and Dumb Asylum	10,500 00
Female House of Refuge	8,750 00
German Orphan Asylum of Baltimore	3,500 00
German Aged People's Home	3,000 00
Hebrew Orphan Asylum	3,500 00
Hebrew Hospital	4,000 00
Home of the Friendless	6,000 00
Home of the Incurables	3,500 00
House of Correction	46,477 50
House of the Good Shepherd	6,000 00
House of Refuge	30,000 00
House of Reformation for Colored Children	20,000 00
Hospital for the Women of Maryland	4,000 00
Home of the Friendless, Easton	1,000 00
Infirmary of Western Maryland	10,000 00
Home of Mothers and Infants	500 00
Industrial Home for Colored Girls	6,000 00
Insane Convicts	1,568 65
Lying-in Hospital for Indigent Women	6,750 00
Ladies' Confederate Memorial Association,	2,500 00
Amount carried forward	$271,546 15

Amount brought forward	$271,546 15
Lunacy Commission	4,836 17
Lying-in Hospital (Maternite)	5,375 00
Maryland Hospital for the Insane (Expenses and Improvements)	66,500 00
Maryland General Hospital	8,750 00
Maryland Penitentiary, for improvements.	100,000 00
Maryland Confederate Home	12,500 00
Nursery and Child's Hospital	5,000 00
Oblate Sisters of the Poor	1,500 00
St. Mary's Industrial School	33,750 00
St. Vincent's Asylum	10,000 00
St. Mary's Orphan Asylum	10,000 00
St. Agnes' Hospital	2,500 00
University of Maryland Infirmary	7,500 00
Woman's Medical College	3,000 00
	$542,757 32

REMARKS.

From an examination of the financial exhibits submitted, and a careful perusal of the Comptroller's report in connection therewith, it can be clearly seen that the State is in good financial condition.

The disbursements for the fiscal year 1893 show a reduction of $476,484.89 as compared with the fiscal year 1892, after deducting legislative expenses, which were paid during the year 1892.

Purchases have been made for the various sinking funds, during the fiscal years 1892 and 1893, to the amount of $912,615.95, which exceeds the statutory requirements by about $100,000.00.

By an examination of the tables showing the present liabilities of the State, and the estimated value of her assets (at fair market rates), it can be seen that the net debt of the State is $1,433,898.21.

These estimates do not embrace any of the State's unproductive assets, such as its interest in railroads within the State which have not been a success financially, and its holdings in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, together with interest on the same, and shares of stock in several turnpike and bridge companies. The total value of these assets, as shown by the Comptroller's report in 1891, was $29,119,458.97.

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 1893, there have been disbursed for the public schools (including the academic fund) $644,798.16; and there have been distributed to the State prisons and charitable institutions of the State during the fiscal years 1892 and 1893, as per appropriations by past General Assemblies, the sum of $542,757.32.

And by an examination of the statements embodied in this Message, as regards prisons, educational and reformatory departments, it will be seen that the State's liberal appropriations to these sundry institutions have been judiciously and economically expended in the training and education of the students of her schools, and the care and custody of the inmates of asylums, prisons and reformatory institutions, and the kind treatment of the beneficiaries of her charitable institutions. Yet, notwithstanding this liberality, the financial exhibit is good, and the credit of the State was never higher than at present.

REVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT.

The question of revaluation and assessment of the property of this State has been, for some years past, much considered by the people and General Assemblies of the State.

No general valuation of property has been made since

1876, and, in the natural course of events, great changes have taken place in the values of real estate in the cities and counties within the State.

It is unnecessary to say to you that the valuations of personal property, made in this State in 1876, and corrected from time to time by the County Commissioners and the Appeal Tax Court of Baltimore City, do not, in their aggregate, approximate to the real value of such holdings in the State, and that a very large proportion of this description of property is now untaxed.

It is certain that no system of taxation can be devised which will wholly remedy this evil; but we ought to be able to devise some system of taxation which will ascertain approximately the amount of personal property owned by each individual residing in the State, without exciting hostility to our methods.

You will remember that the General Assembly of Maryland, in the session of 1890, submitted an amendment to the Fifteenth Article of the Bill of Rights.

The amendment proposed would have allowed the General Assembly discretionary power to adjust taxation in such manner as to distribute its burdens among all classes without doing injury to any.

As this amendment failed to meet the approval of the voters at the election in the autumn of 1891, the Fifteenth Article of the Bill of Rights remains in force, and the General Assembly must now determine what provisions shall be embodied in a new assessment bill, in order that the demand which is universally made for a revaluation of property by the people of the State, irrespective of party or interest, may be complied with.

I most heartily recommend that a bill providing for the revaluation and assessment of the property of this State be considered and *passed as speedily as possible* after the organization of your respective bodies.

I further recommend that the rules of the two bodies be so framed as to provide for a joint committee of the two Houses to consider the question of revaluation and assessment of the property of the State; and that the General Assembly agree, by joint resolution, that legislation looking to a new assessment be taken up for discussion by each of the two bodies within three weeks from the beginning of the session; and that such legislation be given precedence until it is finally disposed of.

I further recommend that, in addition to the general assessment bill, there be enacted a local law for Baltimore city, authorizing and empowering the Mayor and City Council to exercise its own discretion in providing for the *taxation of the property within the corporate limits for municipal purposes.*

And I further recommend that some provision be made for the revaluation of the property (real and personal) within the State, by the Boards of County Commissioners of the respective counties and by the Appeal Tax Court of Baltimore city, at the end of each five years, dating from the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, so as to equalize the valuations of property, as far as practicable, once in five years, so as to obviate the necessity of another new general assessment of property, until there are such material and general changes in values as will require the expense attending a general revaluation and assessment.

The question of providing for a proper bill for the revaluation and assessment of property—a bill which will provide for the fair revaluation of all the property of the State without wronging any individual or interest—is an exceedingly difficult one; perhaps as much so as the regulation of a national tariff which has absorbed the attention of the whole people of this country for years.

In framing this measure, due regard should be given to the condition of the business interests, agricultural and commercial, of the State at large, including the metropolis of the State, (the city of Baltimore), from which the State is deriving about two-thirds of all the revenues received into its treasury.

The support of the public schools of the counties must depend largely upon the revenues derived from the assessment of property within the corporate limits of the city of Baltimore, and there is no interest so near to the hearts of the people as public education.

In framing the provisions of this measure we are forced to consider the systems of revaluation and assessment adopted by such of our sister States as are, or may become, competitors with the industry and capital of the people of our chief city and of our State. New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore compete strongly for *manufacturing, industrial and commercial business;* and we should not, therefore, lose sight of the position occupied by our metropolis and people in relation to the great States and cities which border so closely on our limits, and with which we are brought into competition.

Extreme legislation is always dangerous and attended by many difficulties. On the other hand, conservative legislation produces, as a rule, better results and is more acceptable to the people of a conservative Commonwealth such as Maryland.

The demands and the necessities for a revaluation and assessment of the property of the State cannot be questioned; but the subject is surrounded by many dangers. In the present depressed condition of the agricultural interests of the State there may be a tendency on the part of the assessors to depreciate the values of the farming lands of the State, so as to reduce

the burdens of taxation. This tendency, although natural, would be productive of evil. Owing to the fact of the large mortgage indebtedness on lands in the counties, low valuations would probably result in many foreclosures. And if there is a depressed basis of assessment in the rural districts, an increase must necessarily follow in the levy. Such increase in the levy would probably make borrowing in those sections, on the security of real estate, very doubtful.

It is fair to presume that in some of the counties of the State the basis of taxation, under a fair valuation, would naturally *increase*. And it is also fair to presume, with the present depressed condition of agriculture, the basis of taxation under a fair valuation in many of the counties would naturally *decrease*.

It is unnecessary for me to call your attention to the fact that, within the last few years, the formation of corporations has been largely on the increase; the object being to separate individual interests, formerly held in common, or in copartnership, so that each individual interest might be represented by stocks or bonds more easily convertible into cash by absolute sales, or upon which loans could be negotiated without embarrassment to the business of the corporation.

Under any oppressive system of taxation, such stocks and bonds would, in time, disappear from the State, or be placed beyond the reach of its taxing power.

An extremely inquisitorial tax measure may possibly have the effect of contracting the money capital of the State, and thereby checking its development.

These suggestions are made for the sole purpose of co-operation with you. I look, in making them, only to the best interests and the future prosperity and progress of the whole people of the State.

It is to be presumed that each and every member of

the General Assembly favors a revaluation and assessment of the property of the State for good and valid reasons. Besides, representing as each one does in part one of the political parties of the State, he feels committed to the action of the last political State convention held by his party, and for similar reasons I am equally anxious with you for the prompt passage of this measure. And, in order to simplify the mode of procedure, I have, in the exercise of my constitutional power, determined to suggest to you the propriety of separating the question ordinarily presented by a bill for the general revaluation of property.

I very respectfully suggest and recommend that you first pass a bill embodying all the provisions necessary for the revaluation and assessment of all property in this State, which shall be subject to valuation and assessment for State, county and municipal purposes, on June 1st, 1894; for upon this measure there can be little disagreement. The effect of the passage of such a bill would be to secure a revaluation and assessment of all property in this State taxable on June 1st, 1894, under the existing laws, or under any amendment or addition thereto that might be made by your honorable body at this session of the General Assembly. By the passage of such a measure the new valuation and assessment would, as I have said, be secured.

The General Assembly can then, by a separate bill, re-enact, or amend and re-enact, in such manner and to such extent as it may deem proper, the first, second, third, fourth and fifth sections of Article 81 of the Maryland Code of 1888, title "Revenue and Taxes," so that what is taxable and what is exempted from taxation in this State shall be definitely ascertained before the close of your session; and you will then know that a law is in existence providing for the proper valuation of such properties as will be taxable on June 1st, 1894.

The selection of persons as assessors and members of the Boards of Control and Review who are qualified to fairly and justly revalue the property within the State, is exceedingly difficult; and sufficient time should be given to inquire into the qualifications of the numerous applicants. I, therefore, hope that this measure (or these measures) may be promptly passed, thereby removing all doubts from the minds of our people as to that revaluation of the property within the State for which they have so earnestly asked; and, besides, preventing the necessity of calling a special session of the Senate for the purpose of confirming these appointments.

OYSTERS.

The oyster question is one of the issues of the hour in Maryland. The condition of the oyster fund and of the industry itself, makes this question second only in importance to the question of taxation.

The oyster industry in this State is recognized as one of the most important in the Commonwealth. We not only supply to a very considerable extent the entire country and parts of Europe with this one of nature's choicest products, but there are thousands—yes, tens of thousands, of our people employed directly or indirectly in this industry. In addition, it is the means of keeping in daily circulation thousands of dollars, thereby giving in certain sections of the State a moneyed circulation that is material to the prosperity and welfare of these localities.

As early as 1865 there was established by an Act of the General Assembly a separate fund, which was then and has since been known as the "Oyster Fund." The origin and growth of this fund can best be shown by the table annexed:

RECEIPTS FROM DREDGERS.	YEAR.	TOTAL RECEIPTS.	YEARLY BALANCES.	TOTAL YEARLY EXPENDITURES.
$12,111 20	1865	$14,030 20	$ 14,030 20	$ 00
48,463 22	1866	56,561 97	70,592 17	00
22,515 29	1867	28,778 65	99,289 .97	80 85
32,535 90	1868	45,326 87	123,294 93	21,321 91
46,800 86	1869	61,301 49	156,409 62	28,186 80
38,675 80	1870	50,098 74	174,126 57	32,381 79
41,587 46	1871	53,136 96	203,538 24	23,675 29
39,039 62	1872	50,782 27	231,294 34	23,076 17
54,159 46	1873	65,490 55	272,014 14	24,770 75
30,227 73	1874	36,278 65	271,409 82	36,882 97
42,355 58	1875	43,560 53	247,485 48	67,484 87
48,468 68	1876	50,764 78	249,882 26	48,368 00
49,837 46	1877	51,078 76	250,824 26	50,136 76
37,408 39	1878	38,426 83	247,567 23	41,683 86
31,173 29	1879	31,969 12	235,156 59	44,379 76
18,606 50	1880	19,411 04	212,782 66	41,784 97
40,589 98	1881	44,925 71	219,304 75	38,403 62
52,582 05	1882	57,751 05	237,985 21	39,070 59
48,841 64	1883	56,075 32	239,946 40	54,114 13
65,007 75	1884	67,650 78	244,892 35	62,704 83
78,292 77	1885	79,704 17	197,506 96	127,089 56
49,631 59	1886	51,057 74	141,964 08	106,600 62
52,411 68	1887	55,561 73	130,303 93	67,221 88
48,675 54	1888	53,236 69	115,627 49	67,913 13
57,928 72	1889	61,562 08	113,883 48	63,306 09
52,945 27	1890	58,178 67	101,106 24	70,955 91
50,275 03	1891	52,260 33	79,720 76	73,645 81
44,744 73	1892	46,652 83	46,708 48	79,665 11
44,781 72	1893	48,437 12	3,847 57	91,302 03

By an examination of the above table it will be seen that the fund beginning in 1865 with $14,000 steadily increased to and inclusive of the year 1874, when it was $271,409.82. From that year to the present, with few exceptions, the balance on hand has been gradually reduced; not so materially, however, until of late years.

In 1884 the fund was $244,892.35. Two years thereafter (in 1886) it was reduced to $141,964.08, being a loss in the two years of $102,928.27.

The first entry under the head of disbursements was in the year 1867, being $80.85. The expenses were steadily increased each year, with one or two exception, until the year 1885, when the disbursements amounted to $127,089.56. The difference in the disbursements, and the loss in the annual balances, is largely accounted for by the increase in the naval equipment caused by the building of two steamers, and the construction of schooners, sloops, etc.

The yearly receipts have not varied in any proper proportion to the disbursements and balances. The average receipts for the past twenty-eight years have been about $50,000 per annum. The receipts for the fiscal year 1892 were $46,652.83, and for the fiscal year 1893 they were $48,437.12—an increase of $1,784.29 over the preceding year.

The shrinkage of this fund is attributable not to the falling off in receipts, but to the increase in expenditures, until the balance, as shown by the Comptroller's report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1893, is only $3,847.57. The disbursements for the past year were largely increased by the expenditure of $11,033.00 in building the new schooners ordered by the last General Assembly.

This condition of the oyster fund forces the subject upon the attention of the General Assembly. If the balance of the oyster fund, $3,847.57, is added to the amount received from licenses, etc., since October 1, 1893, there will be about $40,000 to the credit of the fund, while the expenditures for the current year under the present system will probably be $80,000. I therefore call the attention of the General Assembly especi-

ally to the condition of this fund and to the necessity of further legislation in relation to the oyster question.

Unless there is additional and sufficient legislation, the Board of Public Works will be obliged to tie up the steamers and boats of the State to the wharves about mid-summer, for want of funds to defray the running expenses.

I have no doubt that numerous suggestions will be made by members of the General Assembly and others as to the best mode of reorganizing the oyster police navy, so as to place the industry on a self-sustaining basis.

The suggestion has been made that those local laws which direct the payment of the money derived from licenses (to tongers and scrapers) to the county schools be repealed, and that such moneys should be paid into the treasury of the State. If this course was adopted it would probably add $35,000 or $40,000 to the fund each year, as will be shown by the following table:

Counties.	Receipts from Tongers.	Receipts from Scrapers.		
Anne Arundel....	$ 3,172 20	.....	One-tenth to State...	$ 317 22
Calvert.....	2,314 30	.....	" " ...	231 43
Charles.....	535 80	.....	" " ...	53 58
Dorchester.....	4,557 20	$6,144 90	" " ..	1,070 21
Kent.....	2,111 90	.....	" " ...	211 19
Queen Anne's....	2,676 10	.....	" " ...	267 61
Somerset.....	1,556 00	4,944 90	" " ...	650 09
St. Mary's.....	3,212 00	.....	" " ...	321 20
Talbot	3,417 00	738 00	" " ...	415 50
Wicomico.....	1,849 70	.....	" " ...	184 97
	$25,402 20	$11,827 80		$3,723 00

Suggestions may be offered looking to increasing the license fees payable by dredgers, tongers and scrapers. And, no doubt, the question of leasing some portions of the oyster beds will be brought forward for consideration.

The oyster industry and the questions connected with it, have not had in the past the consideration by the General Assemblies that they ought to have received, because they have been regarded as local matters, of interest only to the tide-water counties. As the expenses attending the oyster police force were defrayed from the receipts from the oyster industry, the members of the two branches of the General Assembly from the Western and Central sections of the State were not forced to consider the question from a financial standpoint, as they will now be obliged to do.

There is so much to be said on this subject which is important to the industry involved, and to the best interests of the people of the State, that I deem it best to defer any material recommendations until such time as the question may be under consideration by the General Assembly, when I shall *communicate with you by a special message embodying specific recommendations.*

PUBLIC EDUCATION.

The public school system is one of the subjects which figures conspicuously in all legislative bodies of the respective States of this country.

The free school fund of Maryland was established early in the eighteenth century.

The present public school system was enacted in 1872. Under this system our schools have grown with remarkable rapidity; and through the advantages of substantial financial aid from the State, in addition to the local assistance rendered by Baltimore city and the counties, the system has been developed and extended, additional facilities have been furnished, and new schoolhouses erected in the cities and rural districts of the State, until it is conceded that the schools of Maryland are fully abreast in every detail with those of any of her sister States.

The report of the State Board of Education for the year 1893 (which is not yet completed) will be submitted to the General Assembly shortly after its organization. Upon an examination of the report of this Board for the year 1892 it will be seen that there were then 2,263 public schools in the State. Of this number 2,215 are in the counties, and the remainder, 148, are located in the city of Baltimore. Of this total number 473 are colored schools. The number of pupils in the State 189,129; of this number 34,274 are colored pupils. There are 4,015 teachers in the State, 687 of this number being colored. The range of salaries of these teachers is from $141.31 to $596.04 per annum, and the average salary per annum is $391.34. The receipts from all sources to the public schools during the year 1892, were $1,974,890.81. The total expenditures during the year 1892, were $2,168,306.35. The increase of expenditures over receipts is accounted for in the tables showing the receipts and disbursements in Baltimore City. Of the disbursements there was expended during the year 1892, for rebuilding and repairing school-houses, $257,399.58; for books, stationery, &c., $100,179.20.

The working of the public schools of the State during the past two years, from general information gathered, has been entirely satisfactory.

Chapter 398, of the Acts of 1892, provides for the appointment of a commission of five persons, "to thoroughly investigate the matter of the distribution of the State school tax under existing laws, and ascertain its practical operation and effect, in the various counties and the City of Baltimore, and how far the same works inequality, hardship and injustice, and the cause or causes thereof, and to report to the present General Assembly with recommendations as to what legislation,

if any, is necessary for the correction of the inequalities complained of."

The commission, I am informed, have complied with the direction of the General Assembly, and will shortly communicate, giving the results of their investigation and such recommendations as they may have determined upon.

For further information on the subject of public schools, you are respectfully referred to the annual reports of the State Board of Education for the years 1892 and 1893.

SCHOOL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF STATE TREASURY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1893.

Total receipts upon the taxable basis of the State at ten and a-half cents on the hundred dollars for the fiscal year for public schools	$591,075	89
Disbursements for public and State Normal Schools and the State Board of Education	599,089	83
Disbursements for academic fund	45,708	33
Total disbursements for public schools, including the academic fund	$644,798	16

COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES.

The question of fish propagation was first inaugurated by an Act of Congress establishing the United States Fish Commission, the primary object of which was for the purpose of ascertaining whether there had been any decrease of the food fishes in the waters of the country, and if so, to what causes the diminution was attributable.

This inquiry was followed by appropriations for the purpose of distributing fish in the waters of different sections of the United States.

The interest in this work has so rapidly spread and developed since the establishment of the United States Fish Commission, that there are only five States in the Union that have not been, or are not represented by its fish commissioners. These States are Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana and South Dakota. The depleted fisheries of many sections of the country have been largely restored.

Maryland was one among the first States to follow the action of the United States government in establishing a commissioner of fisheries, which was done by an Act of Assembly in 1874, the object being to establish fish culture—the hatching and the stocking of the streams of the State with such food fishes as are suitable to the waters of the State, and to examine into the feasibility of constructing fish-ways and fish-ladders to admit the passage of fish over dams and other obstructions.

This work has progressed from time to time since its establishment, until it has reached quite extensive proportions.

The biennial report of the Commissioners of Fisheries, which is submitted to the General Assembly, gives a general history of the establishment of fish commissions in this country; also a number of tables which display the actual work of these commissions since their establishment. A careful examination of the report, with the tables in connection, will give you an accurate idea of the work performed by this department.

INSPECTOR OF MINES.

By an examination of the reports of the Inspector of Mines of Allegany and Garrett counties, it will be seen that the ventilation of these mines has been carefully looked after, and complaints to the Inspector inquired into and remedied as far as possible. There have been

few fatal accidents, and good health and good order generally prevailed. The mining operators have provided comfortable homes for their employees; and through the liberality of the State the county school boards of these vicinities have furnished educational facilities which are much appreciated.

The shipments of coal from this region during the year 1892 were 3,063,909 tons, and from information gathered, there is likely to be an increase of 300,000 tons over last year. Of these amounts, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company carried during the year 1892, 275,000 tons, and during the year 1893, it is estimated they will carry 330,000 tons.

As the tables showing the annual shipments are made up to December 31st of each year, I am unable to give the shipments for the year 1893, but the same can be found in the annual report of the Inspector, which will be hereafter submitted to the General Assembly. In addition to the total amount shipped, the report of the Inspector for the year 1892 shows in detail the shipment from each particular mining company in the region.

During the past two years, there have been no complaints made to the executive department, and I therefore have to conclude that the work of the Inspector has been satisfactory to the miners and the mine operators of this region.

COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE.

The report of the Commissioner of the Land Office, which will be submitted by the Commissioner to the General Assembly, gives a detailed account of the work of the department since the first of October, 1891, and also calls attention to the condition of many of the record books of the office.

The attention of the General Assembly is respectfully called to the recommendations offered by the Commissioner, and particularly his reference to the damaged condition of the records which are valuable to our people and to the State itself.

MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE.

The Maryland State Weather Service was organized by an Act of Assembly in 1891, (with an appropriation of two thousand dollars per annum) under the joint auspices of the Johns Hopkins University, the Maryland Agricultural College, and the United States Weather Bureau. The central office was established at the Johns Hopkins University. The publications of this service are chiefly devoted to the discussion of the climates of the territories covered by its observation, the effect of the meteorological conditions, products of the soil, and the special advantages to be enjoyed by the inhabitants. On account of the varied climate of Maryland, the condition in its soil formation and extensive coast line, the agricultural and commercial interests of the State are many and important. A well-equipped State weather service may be of great value in bringing to the attention of the public the special advantages which the State possesses in these directions. It has been the aim of this service during the past two years to disseminate widely such information by means of its various publications.

The biennial report submitted to the General Assembly is a general review of the climate of Maryland, illustrated by maps, diagrams and tables, which show at a glance the climatic features of the State. The publications issued by this Board seem to have been appreciated by the people of the State, which is evidenced by the support they have given in rendering information in re-

gard to weather and crops, and by the general and complete publication of the reports by the press of the State. It has been suggested that it would be well to have some of these publications translated in German and other languages, for distribution in foreign countries, so as to possibly attract immigration to the State. By an examination of the biennial report much valuable information can be obtained.

STATE TAX COMMISSIONER.

The office of State Tax Commissioner was created under an Act of Assembly of the session of 1878; the purpose being to provide a special officer for the assessment of corporations.

The work of this department since its formation has been exceedingly satisfactory.

An increase is claimed by the Commissioner in the taxable basis of the State as furnished by corporations, of $50,031,503.42.

In addition to this, the distributions made by this department insure to the city of Baltimore and to each county the net value of the shares of capital stock of every corporation owned by residents of the city and each county for the purpose of local taxation.

The taxable value, as determined by the Tax Commissioner, of shares of corporation stock held in each county and the city of Baltimore is reported to the Appeal Tax Court of Baltimore City and the County Commissioners of the counties; and each corporation is directly charged with the payment of the taxes in *solido*. This method, while it insures to the city or county, where the stock is held, the collection of taxes on all the shares owned in such county or city, is an accommodation to all the share-holders, who, under this system,

receive their dividends free and discharged from any lien on account of such taxes. Moreover, it makes sure the taxation of every share of corporation stock; for by this central office all stock is reported to the special localities, as before stated; and even though a mistake occur as to the residence of a stockholder, such assessment in any given locality is not abated until it is charged in the place where it is shown to belong.

While there may be, and doubtless are, some defects in the existing laws pertaining to corporations, the department is working without friction and yielding a handsome revenue to the State.

I therefore deem it unwise to make any recommendations as to any radical changes therein.

As most of the large corporations of the State have their principal offices in Baltimore city, the propriety of transfering the office of the State Tax Commissioner from the city of Annapolis to Baltimore city has been suggested. Those who favor this change claim that the removal of the office to the city of Baltimore, would afford the Commissioner better opportunity to confer from time to time with the Judges of the Appeal Tax Court in that city, and in other ways to acquire information which would materially aid him in placing a just value upon the stock and assets of those corporations with which he has to deal.

The Commissioner, in his annual report to the General Assembly,will deal more in detail with this subject; and the attention of the General Assembly is especially called to the importance of carefully examining and considering his report and recommendations.

STATE CATTLE SCALES.

Upon my recommendation to the General Assembly, Chapter 93, of the Acts of 1892, was passed, which act authorized the Governor, in his discretion, to close the State Cattle Scales, and directed the Board of Public Works to dispose of the property to the best interest of the State; and, therefore, acting under the authority given in the chapter referred to the scales were closed and the office of weighmaster abolished.

The Board of Public Works then proceeded to comply with the law and offered the ground and buildings at public sale, which resulted in the disposal of the entire property for $40,950, of which $15,950 was paid in cash, and the balance of $25,000 was secured by mortgage on the property bearing the legal rate of interest.

Owing to the fact of the General Assembly having failed to appropriate a fund to defray the expenses of surveying, advertising, auctioneer's fees and the incidentals connected with the sale, the Board of Public Works negotiated with the Farmers' National Bank of Annapolis to furnish the funds to liquidate these claims and to await the action of the General Assembly. I therefore recommend that an appropriation be made to the amount of $1,064.04 to cover these expenses.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS.

By Chapter 211, of the Acts of 1884, there was established a Bureau of Industrial Statistics and Information as to the branches of industry. Under this Act the Bureau was continued from year to year, and certain statistics confined more particularly to the branches of industry within this State (as was designed by the Act referred to) were gathered until the session of

1892, when, upon my recommendation, Chapter 29 of that session was enacted, and the duties of this Bureau enlarged so as to embrace information not strictly required of the Bureau under the original Act of 1884.

The information required of the present Bureau is much more general; among other requirements, to collect statistics, to examine and report upon the condition of labor in the State, also to collect information as to the agricultural condition and products, the prices of lands, live stock, and other matter pertaining to agricultural pursuits; also such information as is obtainable from the various transportation lines of the State, embracing shipping and commerce generally. The appropriation for this work being the sum of $5,000, which must cover all salaries and expenses of this department in collecting and reporting the information referred to.

The information on the subjects contemplated by the Act, and upon numerous other subjects which might be inquired into, would make an invaluable work to our people, and possibly be the means of inducing or attracting foreign and home immigration to the advantages offered by the State of Maryland.

Inquiries are received daily from sections of this and other countries, asking for information that is difficult to give, and which can only be obtained through the work of this Bureau, or some similar source of information.

It will be noted by the report of the Chief of this Bureau, which will shortly be submitted to the General Assembly, that he has dealt with the following subjects: Agricultural Resources and Immigration; Oyster Industry; Railroads; Strikes; Child Labor; Business Depressions; Coal Statistics; The Unemployed; and such other information as was obtainable.

This compilation of these various subjects seems to have been well done; and the attention of the General Assembly is called to the continuance of this work, and the possible extension of its lines in directions that were not contemplated by the Act creating the same. In other words, I am impressed with the idea that the duties of this Bureau should be considerably enlarged, and that any additional financial assistance that may be rendered by the State could be employed to good advantage, and would result in material benefit to our people.

STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

The working of this department for the past year has been excellent, and the revenue therefrom, amounting to $118,000, has been a considerable addition to the State treasury.

The Commissioner, in his report, makes several recommendations, among which he suggests that provision be made for a "Fire Marshal," whose duty it should be to investigate fires in the cities and counties throughout the State, with full power to summon witnesses, compel their attendance, and take all necessary steps to ascertain the true causes of fires.

He calls attention to the fact that many of the States have provided such an officer, whose work has not only proved a protection to the insured, but also through rigid investigations has largely decreased the number of fires; and it would also be some protection to the insurance companies who contribute liberally to the State government through license fees. It seems that the insurance companies of the State, and those having agents in the State, have not been successful during the past year owing to the large number of fires and the heavy losses from same.

It is estimated that the salary of such an officer, (Fire Marshal) together with cost of office rent and incidental expenses attending his investigations, etc., would not exceed the sum of $5,000 or $6,000 per annum.

From information gathered I deem it appropriate to call the attention of the General Assembly to the suggestions offered by the Commissioner in his annual report.

STATE TOBACCO WAREHOUSES.

Until the year 1890, the five State tobacco warehouses in the city of Baltimore, were separately managed by five inspectors—one for each warehouse. Under the system then in vogue the expenditures of this department had been exceeding the receipts for many years. The Comptroller's report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1890, shows that the tobacco warehouse fund was indebted to the State the sum of $174,383.68.

By Chapter 262, of the Acts of 1890, these five warehouses were consolidated into three warehouses, with three inspectors, thereby disposing of the salaries and expenses attending the running of two of the warehouses. The result of this legislation was a gain to the State financially.

Shortly after my inauguration, upon examining the tobacco warehouse account, as herein stated, I found there was still some question as to whether the tobacco warehouses were on a permanent, self-sustaining basis, and whether the receipts from the same were likely to reduce the indebtedness to the State. This possible doubt was increased by the knowledge of the fact that many of the warehouses were sadly in need of repairs. I therefore deemed it necessary to have further legislation in order to place the warehouses on a self-sustain-

ing basis, and, if possible, liquidate the debt due the State. And it was upon my recommendation that Chapter 41, of of the Acts of 1892, was passed, providing for the leasing of certain warehouses that were not absolutely necessary for the trade. Acting under this authority, the following leases were made:

Tobacco Warehouse No. 4, at an annual rental of	$ 3,500
Tobacco Warehouse No. 2, with wharf attached, at an annual rental of	7,000
Old No. 2 Tobacco Warehouse, at an annual rental of	2,000
Portion of Wharf in front of No. 1 Tobacco Warehouse, annual rental of	1,500
Making a total of	$14,000

With this fixed revenue and the ordinary receipts from tobacco inspections, the tobacco warehouses are now safely on a self-sustaining basis, and the debt due the State will be slowly but surely decreased.

The total receipts from the tobacco warehouses, including wharves attached, for the years 1892 and 1893, were $32,304.11; and with the rental obtained from the wharf on Light street, in front of No. 3 Warehouse, of $1,000, which properly belongs to the tobacco fund, would give a net income to the State of $33,304.11.

The Comptroller's report for next year, (September 30, 1894) will likely show a gain of $3,000 over the present report of 1893, which only credits the rents from the warehouses for nine months.

In order to give the inspectors of the three tobacco warehouses still in use for the inspection of tobacco the advantages of the upper floors of the same and to reduce the expenses of hoisting tobacco, a contract was made

with Messrs. James Bates & Son for two gas elevators, one for No. 1 and one for No. 3 warehouses, at a cost of $3,580. There were also some expenses attending the transfer of the screws and machinery from No. 2 Tobacco Warehouse (which was leased) to No. 3.

One of the warehouses, known as "Old No. 2," which has been used for storage purposes for many years at an annual rental of $1,000, is now rented for $2,000 per annum. This building has been in bad condition for years, and was sadly in need of extensive repairs. Many of the girders had been braced and propped for fifteen years. Finally, in June, 1893, the piles gave away and the roof and floors of the building caved in sufficiently to endanger the falling of the walls into the street.

The Board of Public Works, in order to save further damage, and the expense of rebuilding the entire warehouse, determined to make substantial repairs to the property, which was done in a thorough manner, the cost of the same being $7,745.64. This expense could readily have been met by the receipts from the other warehouses; but the Board of Public Works, not having specific authority to use the receipts for this purpose, determined that all the receipts should be paid into the treasury, and that the bill for the repairs be presented to the General Assembly, with the request that an amount be appropriated to meet the same.

THE MARYLAND PENITENTIARY.

The Maryland Penitentiary was established by a resolution of the General Assembly in 1805. It is situated on East Madison street, Baltimore; the original purchase being three acres of land for $7,500. Following this was an appropriation of $30,000 for the construction of the buildings. In 1811 the institution was formally opened. There have been received into the institution since that time 13,205 convicts. Its capacity is about 700. There are now 630 prisoners.

The attention of the General Assemblies of the State for several years past has been called to the age and inadequacy of the buildings to accommodate the vastly increasing demands upon the institution, and numerous recommendations have been made by the Grand Juries of Baltimore city, and by the respective Boards of Directors of that institution to the General Assembly, calling attention to the fact of needed additional facilities, and it was upon these recommendations that the General Assembly of 1890 began making small appropriations for the purchase of surrounding property looking to the construction of a larger and more permanent building.

The management of the Maryland Penitentiary is eminently satisfactory, and the discipline and good order reflect credit upon the Warden and the Board of Directors.

The institution is on a self-sustaining basis, and, in addition, has contributed to the revenues of the State. The industries that are being conducted therein are profitable to the institution; and it is owing to the satisfactory results of this work that the institution is being kept on a self-sustaining basis.

The value of the present site and improvements may be estimated at $1,000,000. There has been expended for extensions and new buildings $150,000. Paid for

ground and improvements, $116,993.81, leaving a balance on hand of $45,146.05.

In order to give a more intelligent idea of the property as it now is, and the improvements which the Board intends suggesting to the General Assembly, I have annexed a photograph of the present property and a drawing of the proposed building.

The time has undoubtedly arrived when there must be some additional provision made for prisoners hereafter to be confined in this institution. And the attention of the General Assembly is especially called to the needs and necessities for the same.

At a more suitable occasion during your session I may communicate by special message, with recommendations in detail on this subject.

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

This institution is situated at Jessup's Station in Anne Arundel county; the property having been bought and the building erected exclusively at the expense of the State, at a cost of $250,000. It was incorporated in 1874.

With this appropriation a large and substantial brick building was erected with 232 cells, and a capacity for about 300 prisoners. There have been confined in this institution since its incorporation 9,398 prisoners.

In connection with the building is a farm of 300 acres, 200 acres of which are in an improved state of cultivation; and upon the grounds have been erected a number of out-buildings, barns, etc. There is a railroad switch running from the B. & O. R. R. track through the grounds, a distance of about a quarter of a mile, to the institution.

This is one of the penal institutions of the State. Commitments are made for such offenses, (defined by law) as in the judgment of the Courts or the Justices of the Peace do not warrant confinement in the Maryland Penitentiary for long terms.

The State originally appropriated the sum of $30,000 per annum, which amount was reduced the past two years to $20,000, for its maintenance. With this yearly contribution the management has been able to improve the property by the construction of the out-buildings referred to, by opening roads, draining, cleaning, fertilizing, liming, and generally enriching and enhancing the value of the land, which produces fairly good crops, and compares favorably with private farms throughout the State.

The prisoners confined in this institution are employed in different works of industry; some as farm laborers,

and others in such employments as are profitable to the institution.

The House of Correction is being too frequently used by the Justices of the Peace throughout the State as an asylum for imbeciles, who are committed as "vagrants," "drunk and disorderly," etc.,and on other minor charges. It was not the intention of the General Assembly of Maryland in appropriating for this institution that it should provide for inmates of this character, and no suitable quarters were arranged to accommodate them. This institution is a work-house, and these weak-minded imbeciles refuse to comply with the rules and regulations. Therefore they become incorrigible, and in order to prevent their interference with the work of the other prisoners, necessity compels the superintendent to confine them in the ordinary cells. This confinement they resist, and at all hours of the day, and particularly at night, they arouse and disturb the other prisoners from taking their rest which they must have after the day's labor in the working departments of the institution. It can therefore be clearly seen that some action should be taken by the General Assembly to provide for this class of imbecile paupers who are largely on the increase throughout the State.

I wish further to call the attention of the General Assembly to the necessity of some additional provision being made at this institution for the separation of the female prisoners from the sections of the building occupied by the male prisoners. Owing to the fact of the women being separated from the men simply by iron bars, the intercourse,which cannot be entirely prevented, is detrimental to the reformation of the inmates and the good management. I recommend that provision be made for an additional wing to the building to be used exclusively for the women; also that additional facili-

ties be furnished for the working departments, as with the present list of prisoners, averaging in the neighborhood of three hundred. the work-rooms are too much crowded for efficient work, and in addition are prejudicial to the good work of the institution, and are damaging to the constitutions and future health of the prisoners.

In my judgment it becomes the duty of the State to protect, as far as possible, the health of inmates whilst in its institutions, and also to see that they are not surrounded by such conditions as would likely bring the prisoners to that condition of health that when released their future usefulness is destroyed by the physical conditions that surrounded them whilst confined, and sooner or later becoming patients of the hospitals of the State or county asylums and proving an additional burden to the taxpayers.

Except for these defects the House of Correction is in good working condition, the management being creditable to the Board and to the State.

The appropriation of $20,000, which the State makes annually to this institution, I recommend be continued for the next two years at least.

THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

The Maryland School for the Blind was incorporated in 1853, and is situated on North avenue, opposite Calvert street, Baltimore. The entire cost of the property was about $260,000, which amount was contributed in part by the State, and largely by private contributions.

This institution is in no sense an *asylum*, but a school for the instruction and training of the blind youth of our State. Being a State institution, it is provided for by a regular appropriation of $21,000 annually, to be applied under the direction of the Governor, under whose authority the blind persons of the State, of seven years of age or upwards, are admitted. All applicants are recommended to the Governor by the County Commissioners of the respective counties and by the Judges of the Orphans' Court of the City of Baltimore.

The graduates of this school have secured positions in similar schools as teachers in many of the States in different sections of our country. A number of graduates are employed by manufacturing establishments in the city of Baltimore.

There are at present about one-hundred pupils in the school; seventy-four of this number are State beneficiaries or free scholars. The entire revenues of the institution for the past year were $45,455.16, of which amount the State appropriated $21,000, leaving $24,455.16 received from other sources of revenue, such as paid scholars from other States, receipts from the sale of goods manufactured by the inmates, etc. The entire disbursements were $33,850, leaving a balance on hand to the credit of the institution of $11,605.16.

The work of the institution is well established,

being generally recognized as one of the very best institutions of its kind in the United States. There is no charity that the State should more cheerfully assist than to provide for the training of those who have been deprived of their sight.

MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

The Maryland School for the Deaf is situated at Frederick City, Maryland, and was incorporated in 1867; the cost of the present building being $225,000.

This institution is more commonly known amongst the citizens of the State as the "Deaf and Dumb Asylum."

The present building furnishes a capacity for one hundred and fifty pupils.

An industrial building, embracing a cabinet shop, shoe shop and printing office, was erected in 1892, at a cost of $3,000.

The whole number of pupils under instruction since the foundation of the school is three hundred and ninety-five.

Every county in the State has received benefits from this institution, by being able to provide for some one or more of the unfortunate within its borders.

This institution has been recognized by the citizens of the State as one of the necessities of the age.

The efficiency of the management and the good results of the work done have always enabled its President and Board of Visitors to secure from the State an annual appropriation of $25,000.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The progress of this institution in the past year has been exceedingly gratifying in all of its departments.

The work of the year 1891 was far from satisfactory, owing, in the first place, to the limited attendance of pupils, and a clashing of authority among the faculty.

The Board of Trustees with some difficulty succeeded in partially changing the administration of the college, and under the direction of the present presiding officer, assisted by the faculty, I regard the institution as now in a more flourishing condition than it has ever been; and, if properly supported by the State, I know of no reason why it should not become one of the leading institutions of the country.

Under former administrations the college and the Experimental Station were under one management. At present they are working in conjunction with each other, but under separate and distinct management, each having its own executive officer; the result being that both are thriving and are in a prosperous condition.

The growth of the institution can in no way be better demonstrated than by noting the additions in scholarships in the past year. The average scholarships in ten years to 1891 was thirty. The entire number enrolled in 1891 (under the former management) was eighty-two. The number of students enrolled in 1892 (under the present management) was one hundred and twenty-five. And the number enrolled in 1893 (under the same management) is one hundred and forty-four. In addition to the one hundred and forty-four scholars now enrolled for the year 1893, sixty-nine who applied for entrance were refused, owing to the want of accommodations. So if the accommodations permitted, the scholarships would

have been two hundred and thirteen, which would be nearly three times the scholarships under the former management.

The spirit of the institution is now true to its name; agricultural and mechanic arts are the emphasized courses of instruction.

The mechanical course is yet in its infancy, owing to the want of sufficient quarters for the establishment of the same.

The Board of Trustees deemed it essential that there should be an additional building provided for a department of physical culture, and for a library, and, following this conclusion, a substantial brick building, 60x40, two stories, was erected at a cost of $5,500.

Eight hundred volumes have already been secured for the library, and it is believed within the next few years it will compare favorably with those connected with any of the agricultural colleges in the country.

The main building has been thoroughly renovated, and the water supply improved.

This college is now on a substantial basis, under good management, and is a credit to the State.

I most heartily recommend this institution to the favorable consideration of the General Assembly.

MARYLAND STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The Maryland State Normal School is situated on Lafayette Square, Baltimore, and was established in 1865. Its object is for the instruction and practice of teachers of public schools in the science of education, the art of teaching and the mode of governing schools. It is a State institution. The cost of construction was $100,000.

There have been 888 pupils graduated between the years 1866 and 1893, nearly all of whom (besides many who did not complete their course) have become teachers in the public schools of the State. The annual appropriation for the support of this school is $10,500. This institution has been eminently successful from year to year, until the roll of scholarships now numbers 350, being patronized by the citizens of the State in many instances in preference to private schools.

Applications for scholarships largely exceed the capacity of the institution, and in order to continue the advancement of the work designed, it has become absolutely necessary to add an additional wing to the present building. Fortunately, in the purchase of the property this possible want was anticipated, and a lot was secured sufficiently large to give building room to extend as the needs demanded.

The members of the State Board of Education will present to you a more detailed statement of the necessities of this addition, and as president *ex officio* of the Board, the efforts to secure the appropriation for an addition to this building have my endorsement and approval.

STATE LUNACY COMMISSION.

The good work of this Commission is a strong endorsement of the action of the Legislature in establishing the same.

Visits to the different State institutions throughout the State, also to the alms-houses and the county jails, have largely assisted in better provision being made for the care and custody of the insane.

The Commission estimates that there are now in institutions of the State, including alms-houses and county jails, 3,150 insane, feeble-minded and idiotic persons. Of this number 1,800 are indigent; 500 are colored; and as far as can be ascertained, it is estimated that there are 400 insane persons who are unprovided for.

The Commission earnestly requests that I recommend to the General Assembly the establishment of an additional institution or institutions for the care and treatment of the indigent insane, which recommendation I have treated elsewhere in this Message.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION FOR THE INSANE.

The attention of the General Assembly is especially called to the annual report of the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, upon examination of which it will be seen that the present facilities furnished by the State are not sufficient to properly accommodate this class of the State's beneficiaries.

This hospital is the only one for the treatment of the insane which the State owns in its entirety.

It is very evident from general information received, and from the report of the State Lunacy Commission, that some additional facilities should be made.

Several counties have made provision for the insane of their respective localities, but in a very large majority

of cases they have only the county alms-houses or jails. Therefore, many of the indigent insane are committed for some trivial offense to the House of Correction, which is not provided with the equipment for the care and custody of this class of prisoners.

I am informed from reliable authority that there are several hundred indigent insane throughout the counties unprovided for. It therefore has become a matter of serious consideration for the General Assembly as to what action is best to be had.

For persons who are able to pay, there are several very excellent private institutions, but for the poor who must look to the State for protection, there are no places left but the alms-houses and jails.

I am informed that the experience of other States proves that an institution capable of expansion, with certain limits, is more economical first and last than one that cannot be extended beyond its original limits. In other words, it would perhaps be better for the State to begin the establishment of an asylum with limited quarters, extending the same as the necessities require.

The question of location is an exceedingly important one. Due regard must always be given to the cost of transportation from and to the institution from the different sections of the State. There should be a farm of good size connected with the institution, where many of the inmates could be furnished some employment to occupy their minds, and besides producing some revenue to the maintenance of the institution. A healthful locality should be first considered, and an abundant supply of pure water.

Some scientific practitioners, who have had experience in the treatment of the insane, seem to favor the "colony" system as an adjunct to the present hospital. It has been suggested that the State purchase a farm

with a goodly number of buildings in close proximity to each other, and that these buildings be used to test the colony system for such patients as do not require close confinement. If after due consideration it should be determined that additional provision be made for this class of unfortunates, I would respectfully recommend that the institution be located within a radius of twenty miles of Baltimore city, at some point not too remote from the Maryland Hospital for the insane, as there could be many financial advantages gained to the State in locating the same within a reasonable proximity to the present institution, on account of the liklihood at times of the inmates being exchanged or transferred from one to the other.

The products of the farm to be purchased would be immensely valuable to the present institution, which, owing to its limited acreage, is unable to provide the necessary garden and field supplies to maintain the large number of inmates now under treatment at this point.

MARYLAND HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

This institution is situated near Catonsville, Baltimore county. It was founded in 1797 jointly by the State of Maryland, the city of Baltimore, and a number of benevolent citizens of the latter city.

The first contribution of the State was $8,000. The hospital was erected in Baltimore on the site where Johns Hopkins' Hospital now stands. Additional appropriations were granted by the State as follows: In 1811 $18,000, and in 1816 $30,000. Insane patients were admitted from the first. In 1834 the State assumed control, and the hospital was after this time exclusively used as an institution for the care and treatment of the insane.

In 1852 the present site was purchased by authority of the State; the buildings erected and occupied in 1872. During the past year the total number of patients treated was 649; the highest number present any one day being 466. The hospital has always ranked among the best in the country. Its management has been economical and efficient, and the treatment of the insane patients is humane and progressive. No form of mechanical restraint is ever used.

The State has given pecuniary aid to the hospital from the beginning of its existence, although never assuming its entire support. The income during the past year was $98,635.52, and was derived from the following sources: State appropriations, $25,000; private patients, $11,130.10; county patients, $38,395.45; Baltimore city patients, $24,106.97.

The present indebtedness of the hospital is $11,584.46, and the bills due the hospital for the care of patients, some of which are probably not collectible, amount to $28,075.13.

The Board of Managers ask that the State assume the entire support of the hospital, or that the State appropriation be increased to $30,000 annually. A special appropriation of $9,000 for needed repairs and improvements is also asked for.

STATE WHARVES.

The State of Maryland is the owner of certain State wharves in the city of Baltimore. One of the wharves fronts on Pratt street, opposite Calvert street. The other wharves accounted for by the State Wharfinger, (as shown in the Comptroller's report), properly belong to the State Tobacco Warehouses. Under the laws regulating the control of these wharves, the Comptroller has been directed to keep two distinct accounts of this property—one for the tobacco warehouses proper and the other for the wharves.

I therefore recommend that the existing laws be so amended as to direct that the rents and revenues received from the wharves now used and heretofore used in connection with the State tobacco warehouses be placed by the Comptroller to the credit of the State Tobacco Warehouse Fund, and that the wharf on Pratt street alone be kept in a separate account.

ROADS AND ROAD LAWS.

The improvements of roads and the laws to properly construct and maintain the same in the most economical manner are being discussed through the press, road conventions and road leagues in all parts of the United States.

This agitation of the subject must lead to important changes in our road systems, and eventually to the general improvement of the roads of our State and country.

Under the system in vogue in Maryland large sums are annually expended without adequate benefits. In most instances partly for want of scientific knowledge on the part of many of the supervisors, and in nearly all cases for want of sufficient funds to enable the supervisor to properly grade, pave and improve the same.

The first difficulty can easily be overcome by enacting general or local laws, thereby placing the control of the roads in the hands of competent road engineers. But the great obstacles in the way is to provide for the heavy cost attending the improvements desired.

It is claimed that to properly grade and pave an ordinary Maryland road (such as we find in Carroll, Frederick and Howard counties) would cost from $3,000 to $4,000 per mile. If this be true, it can easily be seen that these heavy expenses could not be borne by the taxpayers of the counties alone.

Therefore it has been suggested that the State co-operate by creating a road loan to mature in fifteen years, so as to distribute the burdens of taxation.

Then there comes the question as to whether the taxpayers of the flat and sandy sections of the State (where road improvement is not so material) would be willing to co-operate in the issuing of the State loan to be redeemed by general taxation.

All of these questions and many others naturally come into the discussion.

A further suggestion has been made that the statutes of the State be so amended as to place all the roads of the State under the supervision of a competent State engineer.

And further, that the local laws of the counties of the State be so amended as to assess benefits and award damages to the property-holders through whose property the roads of the State pass.

Experience and observation have taught the citizens of the State that lack of foresight has been too frequently displayed in the opening of the county roads, especially through the rolling and mountainous sections of the State. It has been too frequently the custom to follow the boundary lines of farms, and thereby always increasing the length of the road, and in instances adding immensely to the grade. This is accounted for by the fact that the Commissioners who are authorized to open the roads do not wish to do damage to the land owners along the line of the proposed opening, and hence the custom has been to follow most any route that the owners of the property would donate, rather than to make a direct road from point to point regardless of the ownership and any slight damage that might attend the same.

These are the reasons as to why it would be advisable to have laws which would enable the Commissioners to assess benefits and award damages. And owing to the further fact that if the roads of the State were regulated by State laws, and placed in the hands of a competent engineer, in order to reach the object desired, he would be forced in very many instances to change the entire route of the respective public roads. First, in order to shorten the distance, and thereby save the expense of $3,000 or $4,000 a mile. Secondly, to reduce the grades along the line of the roads. And again, to take the best advantage possible of the position of the road and its connection with the water shed in the vicinity through which it passes.

Numerous plans of road improvement will no doubt be submitted; some providing for local control and others to centralize the administration under a State officer—all, however, agreeing that the roads should be constructed upon scientific principles under the supervision of a competent engineer or engineers, as road

making is an art which can properly be applied only by those who have been especially trained in the theory and practice.

It is evident that the people of the State are much interested in this question; and, recognizing that the general improvement of the road system would result in increasing the taxable basis of the State by the general enhancement of the property in the rural districts, and, further, the general advantage gained in many directions by good roads, your attention is especially called to this subject, in the hope that some wise and judicious legislation may be the result of your deliberations.

TRAMPS AND VAGRANTS.

There is widespread complaint of the increase in the number of tramps and vagrants coming into the State from other sections of the country, and of their frequent acts of lawlessness and intimidation.

The existence of this army of vagrants exposes to insult and injury the unprotected wives and daughters of mechanics and other laboring men whose occupations call them away from home.

These vagabonds are also accused of barn burning, railroad wrecking and other crimes more or less heinous in character.

The burden which is thus indirectly imposed upon the citizens of this State, to say nothing of the cost of maintaining this large class in idleness, is a heavy one, and it seems that some additional legislation is necessary in order more effectually to remedy the evil.

The punishment provided by the existing general law for the tramps, upon conviction, is imprisonment in the House of Correction for not less than two months nor more than one year. That establishment is, however,

insufficient in size to accommodate all the prisoners who are sentenced to confinement in it, and the management is also unable to supply work adequate to keep all the inmates steadily employed. It seems, therefore, that some other means should be sought by which the curative power of enforced labor may be applied to persons convicted of being tramps. I consider that such employment may be found in a field where there is not only need of labor, but where the labor of tramps, who are mostly without skill in any trade, may be applied beneficially and without competing with any of the established industries of the State. The kind of labor to which I refer is the making and repairing of public roads throughout the State.

There is a growing popular demand for improved roads—a demand which is fully justified upon economic and social grounds. Therefore I desire to recommend a measure by which tramps and vagabonds, as defined by statute, may, upon conviction, be sentenced in the different counties (at the discretion of the Court or Justice of the Peace having jurisdiction) to labor upon the public roads or village and town districts, under the direction of the County Commissioners, and while in the custody of the Sheriffs of the counties.

Such a law would relieve the counties from the expense involved in conveying convicted tramps to the House of Correction which is now incurred, while the cost of the additional force of deputy sheriffs requisite for guarding the convicts when at work and in the county jails would be more than covered by the value of the improved roads and the lessening of the road tax.

Provision may also be made that those tramps and vagrants who are sent to the House of Correction from Baltimore city should be turned over for the time of their sentence by the Board of Managers to the Com-

missioners of such counties as make application for their labor.

The measure that I recommend can scarcely fail to achieve the desired object of diminishing the number of this undesirable class.

ELECTION RETURNS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

There is no existing provision of law by which certificates of the election of the members of the Senate and House of Delegates are officially returned to those bodies.

I recommend that this subject be regulated by statute, and would suggest, if it meets your approval, that the Governor be directed to transmit to the Secretary of the Senate and to the Clerk of the House of Delegates a list of the members of the respective houses, to be made out from the official returns of election addressed to him by the judges of election and the clerks of the courts. Such lists should be transmitted to the said officers on a designated day preceding the meeting of the General Assembly, and in the case of the death or disability of said Secretary or Clerk provision should be made for the transmission of the certificates of election to some other persons, who may, in such event, be authorized to call the respective houses to order.

PUBLICATION OF LAWS.

At every session of the Legislature complaint is made by members of the bar throughout the State, and other persons interested, that the laws as enacted are not published with sufficient promptness.

Since many of the laws go into effect on the day they are approved, it is the manifest duty of the Legislature to make provision for their immediate publication in

newspapers. That this duty is not satisfactorily performed under the existing statute concerning the publication of laws is shown by experience.

I recommend, therefore, that provision be made by which every general law which is made to take effect before June 1st next after the session, and which the Governor and Attorney General may select as requiring publication, should, immediately upon its approval, be copied in the office of the Secretary of State, and the copy duly certified by him be forthwith forwarded for publication in such newspapers in the city of Baltimore and in the counties as may be named by the Governor and Attorney General. The existing regulations concerning the number of newspapers and times of publications are worthy of being retained; but the payment of the clerical force necessary to make the above-mentioned copies should be provided.

CUSTODY OF ENGROSSED BILLS.

I deem it important to call the attention of the General Assembly to the necessity of making some provision for the safe-keeping of engrossed bills after their approval and pending their publication.

These constitute the best evidence of the Acts of Assembly, and until their publication are the only evidence.

The custom in this State has been to send to the public printer the original bills, signed by the Governor and the presiding officers of the General Assembly, before they have been recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals; and they have frequently been in the possession of the printer to the number of 200 or 300 at a time. In this way the work of an entire session of the General Assembly is exposed for months to destruction by fire or loss by theft.

Moreover, during this period there is no means accessible to the public of finding out what statutes have been passed, except from the newspapers.

It would seem desirable either that certified copies of the laws should be sent to the public printer; or, if the present system is to be continued, that the number of original and engrossed bills in the hands of the public printer should be limited to fifty at any one time, and provision should be made for their preservation from fire or other loss.

COPIES OF CHARTERS, RECORDS, ETC.

Numerous applications are made daily to the executive department for copies of charters, records of the Board of Public Works, lists of various State and county officers, as well as for a variety of information requiring for an answer considerable research and time, and interfering greatly with the work of the department. Persons in this and other States have no hesitation in asking for such copies or information, as similar applications are made to the executive departments in other States for which nominal charges are made.

There is no provision of the law either authorizing or prohibiting the charge of fees for work of this character, and I recommend the enactment of a law directing that the same fees be chargeable for copies of papers in the executive department that the clerks of the circuit courts are authorized to demand for similar work; the fees so collected to be used in the payment of the clerical service necessary for making the copies so asked for.

Such a law would in no manner conflict with section 23, of Article II, of the Constitution, as the furnish-

ing of such copies is no part of the work of the executive department.

ADVISORY BOARD OF PARDONS.

My experience since my inauguration has taught me that much of the time of the Executive of this State is necessarily occupied in considering the applications for pardon addressed to him.

These applications are so numerous, and a conscientious investigation of them laborious to such an extent, that the Executive is prevented from devoting as much of his time and attention as he would otherwise do to the consideration of various matters of public concern.

I deem it important that the Governor should be relieved to some extent from the constant pressure to which this part of his duty subjects him.

In many of the States there are Boards of Pardon to which is confided in a greater or less degree the exercise of the power of executive clemency. Under Article 2, section 20, of the Constitution of Maryland, the pardoning power is vested exclusively in the Governor, and no Board of Pardons in this State can be created with authority to act in a final manner; but it is competent for the Legislature to give sanction of law to the formation of an Advisory Board to which the Governor may, in his discretion, refer applications for pardon, in order that he may have the benefit of their views and suggestions. There are now on file in the executive department upwards of four hundred applications for pardon. While some of these are in a high degree meritorious and call for an act of grace, yet many of them are urged without having a solid foundation in reason.

The establishment of such an Advisory Board would not only relieve the Executive to some extent from the

harassing importunities above referred to, but would also be of real service to the public by aiding him in coming to a correct conclusion.

I therefore recommend the passage of a law creating an Advisory Board of Pardons, consisting of five persons, (one of whom shall be the Attorney General,) who shall serve for two years without compensation.

I also suggest that provisions should be made for a monthly meeting of the Board at which such cases as may have been referred to them by the Governor should be considered, and a report thereon made to him, leaving the Governor free to follow the recommendation of the Board or not.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

The amendment to the Constitution of the State proposed by Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1892, which was to add an additional section to Article IV of the Constitution, by which power is given to the General Assembly to create an additional judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, etc., was submitted to the voters of the State at the election held November 7, 1893, as provided by Section 1, Article XIV, of the Constitution. And by the certified returns of said election there were 16,507 votes cast in favor of its adoption, and 8,574 votes cast against its adoption.

The majority of the votes cast at this election being in favor of the adoption of the amendment, I declared by proclamation, issued on the 24th day of November, 1893, that said amendment was adopted as a part of the Constitution of the State.

EXTRADITION.

A considerable part of the contingent fund of the Executive is now used in defraying the expense incurred

in executing the requisitions made upon other States for the surrender of fugitives from the justice of this State, and in bringing such fugitives back to this State for trial.

I desire to ask the consideration by the General Assembly of the question whether these expenses should not be borne by the county or city whose prosecuting officer makes the application for the requisition.

EXECUTIVE MANSION.

I recommend the passage of a law providing that at the beginning of each gubernatorial term an inventory of the furniture and other contents of the executive mansion shall be made out and given by the incoming Governor to the retiring Governor, and that a copy of the inventory shall be filed in the executive department.

THE ICE-BOAT "ANNAPOLIS."

The ice-boat *Annapolis* was constructed in pursuance of the Act of 1883, Chapter 259, and was paid for equally by the State and the city of Baltimore. It is now exclusively under the control of a board composed of the President of the Board of Trade, the President of the Corn and Flour Exchange of Baltimore and the Mayor of that city.

I recommend that this provision be changed so that the control of the vessel be confided to the Governor, the President of the Board of Trade and the Mayor of Baltimore.

Emergencies may arise when the Governor is called upon to furnish assistance in the tide-water counties, or to give relief to vessels shut in by ice, and he would be unable to comply with the most urgent demand because

he has no voice in the control of this vessel, of which the State is part owner.

EXECUTION OF CRIMINALS.

The laws regulating the execution of criminals of this State, who are under death sentence, do not, in my judgment, provide sufficient assistance to the officers having these convicts in charge, so as to enable them to properly resist attacks that are too frequently made upon the county jails where these prisoners are confined from the day of conviction until the day of the execution of the death sentence.

From the provisions of the existing laws on this subject it is to be presumed that it was the intention of the General Assembly that the execution should be private, as far as possible. This, in most instances, is impossible, owing to the character and construction of the jails and their surroundings.

I therefore recommend the enactment of a law providing that all criminals who shall be sentenced to suffer the death penalty shall, as soon as sentence is pronounced, be conveyed to the Maryland Penitentiary, and there confined until the time of execution; and that the sentence shall in all cases be carried out under the direction of the Sheriff of Baltimore city and of the respective counties of the State where the conviction was had. This would largely reduce the expense to the county of protecting and providing for the execution of these criminals.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

St. John's College is situated at Annapolis. It traces its foundation to the year 1696, when it was established as King William's School, the first public free school on the North American continent. In 1784 it was chartered as St. John's College.

This college, being situated at the capital of the State, was assisted by an annual appropriation of $8,500, which the charter provided should be annually and forever. A considerable sum was raised by private subscription, together with the State's appropriation, which has varied from time to time to a larger or smaller amount than the original appropriation.

The present college buildings were erected and the school maintained. The legislatures of 1890 and 1892 made special appropriations of $6,000 per annum in addition to the standing appropriation already provided for by former sessions. The value of the college buildings and effects is estimated roughly at $250,000. The buildings are capable of accommodating two hundred students. There have been two thousand students in attendance at the college since 1866, at the close of the civil war. Twelve thousand students have been matriculated at the college since it opened in 1789. There are twenty-six senatorial scholarships, (free board and tuition), in addition to one Byrd Wiman scholarship, thirty-two free tuition scholarships, and fifteen free tuition scholarships on the foundation. The standard and system of education in the college has always been high. This school has been largely patronized by the citizens of the State since its establishment, and many of our most prominent citizens of the present day, as well as those who have been conspicuous in former days in State and national life, have been graduates of St. John's College.

WESTERN MARYLAND COLLEGE.

The Western Maryland College is situated at Westminster, Carroll county, and was erected by private contributions from representative citizens in the vicinity. It was organized in 1867. It consists of a large building, situated on an eminence overlooking the city of Westminster.

The property owned by the college is estimated at $100,000. Both sexes are admitted, and both have the same courses of study and graduate with the same degree, but live and are taught separately. The whole number enrolled since the establishment of the college is 2,027. The number graduated from the college, 292. The present attendance is 263, and the capacity of the institution is 150 boarders and 150 day scholars.

The State has assisted this institution since 1878 by an annual appropriation of $6,500, upon the condition that there be twenty-six senatorial free scholarships, one from each of the twenty-six senatorial districts in the State.

This college is regarded as one of the substantial educational institutions of the State, and reflects credit upon the board of management. It has become exceedingly popular, as is evidenced by the large number of scholarships and the numerous applications that are made for admission. It has no sources of revenue other than the State appropriation, except the tuition fees of the pay students. The scholarships provided for by the General Assembly are always filled, which gives evidences of the approval of the educational advantages offered, and the appropriation is not excessive for the advantages gained through the educational facilities of the twenty-six free scholarships.

CHARLOTTE HALL.

Charlotte Hall is situated in St. Mary's county. Its history may be traced directly back to the free public schools established in St. Mary's county, being established in the early part of the eighteenth century. By an Act in 1774 the free schools of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's were united, and the school funds merged into a school for the three counties, said school to be known as "Charlotte Hall." In later years the funds from Prince George's county were withdrawn.

The school was put in active operation in 1796, since which period its work has been continuous. It was largely aided by private contributions. The school property embraces 325 acres of land. For the past few years the General Assembly has appropriated an additional $1,000 to this school, making the total appropriation $2,600 a year. The average attendance for the past five years has been something less than 100. From the sixteen free scholarships given one-half goes to Charles and the other to St. Mary's.

This is the only school of high grade in Southern Maryland, and as the counties of St. Mary's and Charles have had no advantages from the works of internal improvement of the State, it seems but proper that this appropriation, before mentioned, should be continued.

WASHINGTON COLLEGE.

Washington College is situated at Chestertown, Kent county. It was established in 1782 through the assistance of private contributions, one of the contributors being General George Washington, whose contribution was $250. The total amount secured was $50,000.

The General Assembly has assisted the institution from time to time with annual appropriations of sundry amounts. The present appropriation is $6,375, upon the condition that the institute educate and maintain eighteen free scholarships, two from each of the nine counties of the Eastern Shore. The value of the property is estimated at $30,000. The average number of pupils per annum is about one hundred. This is one of the oldest and most substantial educational institutions in the State, and is well patronized, particularly from the eastern section of the State.

THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE.

The Maryland Institute, for the promotion of mechanic arts, was chartered by the General Assembly of Maryland in 1849, with the late Joshua Vansant as president. The property consists of a large hall over what is known as Centre Market in Baltimore city, the original cost being $105,000. The city of Baltimore contributed $30,000. For some years past all the energies of the institute have been concentrated upon the schools of art, design and bookkeeping; and, in addition, there is a large library for the use of the pupils.

The schools of art and design are well attended at both the day and evening sessions by young ladies, (many of whom are qualifying themselves for teachers) and by young men and boys who are engaged in mechanical, architectural and other employments requiring a knowledge of drawing and designing. Bookkeeping and writing are taught at the evening sessions for the benefit of the youths occupied in business pursuits during the day. The course of training is thorough and complete, embracing all the branches of artistic and industrial drawing, designing, painting and modelling in the art school, together with a practical business education in the classes of bookkeeping. The aggregate attendance in the past year in the various departments numbered 1,040. Under the charter this institution awards diplomas in the various departments.

For some years the State of Maryland has assisted this institution, and in 1892 the sum of $7,000 per annum was appropriated upon the condition that certain free pupils should be named by the School Commissioners of the various counties and the city of Baltimore. This institution seems to be in a flourishing condition and merits consideration by the General Assembly.

CHARITABLE AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

The charitable and benevolent institutions of all States figure conspicuously in the disbursements from the respective State treasuries. The State Executives usually comment for and against the appropriations for these institutions in their annual or biennial messages to the General Assemblies. The taxpayers also give expression to their views as to the wisdom of the General Assemblies in making the appropriations referred to.

Holding as I do very decided views upon this question, must be my excuse (if one is needed) for the unusual space given to the descriptions of the respective institutions to which the State of Maryland is lending assistance at this time.

In order that my comments may be better understood by the taxpayers of the State, I have, embodied in this Message, a short description of the organization, cost of construction, capacity, service rendered, system of management, and such other facts as might be interesting, together with cuts of such buildings as could be obtained, in order to present not alone to the General Assembly, who ought to familiarize themselves with the work of these institutions, but more particularly to the people who contribute as taxpayers to their support.

Recognizing that the members of the General Assembly, in the limited session, do not have the time nor the opportunity to inspect the work of these public charities as thoroughly as they would do under more favorable circumstances; and knowing that the people of the State as a body have a very faint idea of the good work performed, and the necessities for many of these institutions; and the further fact of the want of knowledge of the advantages to be gained by the citizens of

the counties of the benefits offered, constitute, in part, my reasons for the unusual space given. There can be no difference of opinion as to the necessity of such institutions (either State or private) in every community with a population as large as that of Maryland.

The construction by the State of sufficient buildings to furnish the accommodations and advantages now being supplied by the numerous private institutions to which the State has given assistance, would possibly be surrounded with some misgivings as to the careful expenditure of the large appropriations that would necessarily have to be made for their construction; and after construction the difficulty of providing for the careful, economical and efficient management of these institutions that is obtained in most instances in institutions that are being constantly under the care and guidance of the respective religious organizations to which they may be attached, are obstacles which are difficult to overcome, and should be carefully considered before any radical changes are made in reducing these appropriations. And over and above the possible waste of money in the construction of these buildings, and the efficiency of the boards of directors that might be secured, the difficulty in keeping these institutions free from political power and influence cannot be lost sight of.

One can well understand that the efficiency, economy, discipline, the moral force and effect of any and all State institutions are largely destroyed when political influence is allowed to dominate. What is our experience in public business enterprises would likely be our experience in institutions of this character.

Do not understand me to oppose the construction of State institutions. On the contrary, I am very decidedly in favor of the State erecting and owning exclusively

such institutions as are absolute necessities for the confinement of those who have done violence to its laws, or those who are so unfortunate as to be mentally irresponsible, and dangerous citizens to the community at large; such institutions, for instance, as the Maryland House of Correction, the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, the Maryland Penitentiary, etc.

The different religious denominations and the organized bodies of charitable and public-spirited citizens of the State have it in their power to and do secure the services of professional scientists, efficient officers, and boards of management, who are willing to contribute their services free from expense to the charitable institutions, but the Commonwealth cannot so readily secure the co-operation that would bring about this result.

By the distribution of small amounts to the great number of institutions, there are great advantages, not only from the fact that the beneficiaries are brought in closer contact with the management, but the dangers of contagious epidemics are largely reduced, and the health and morals of the inmates better maintained.

And far in excess of the advantages already named, the greatest consideration of all is the advantage to the State in having the active co-operation and assistance of all these charitable and religious organizations in providing for the unfortunate, without which the State would be forced to bear the entire expense. But through the co-operation of these kind-hearted, charitable and worthy citizens, most of these institutions were in the main erected and are now supported by private contributions. The annual contributions from public-spirited citizens in many instances exceed the State's appropriation, and yet these contributors get no more advantage from the institution than any other citizen of the State.

Therefore, to discourage the work of these private organizations would simply be to force the State not only to the cost of construction of these institutions, but to the absolute necessity of supporting and maintaining them in their entirety, thus proving an additional burden to the poorer class of taxpayers of the State. In other words, to discourage these institutions by withdrawing the appropriations would be to deprive that class of people who become beneficiaries of these institutions of a much larger amount annually than the State contributes to their support.

Holding these views, as I do, in general terms I recommend that the General Assembly do not withdraw its support from any worthy charitable or benevolent institution which the State is now assisting; but, on the contrary, by their action, express a willingness to further co-operate, whenever in their wisdom the conditions justify their action.

HOUSE OF REFUGE,

situated on the Frederick road, in the western suburbs of Baltimore city, was chartered in 1831, and embraces a lot of fifty-five acres. The large buildings were erected at a cost of $260,000, which amount was contributed by the State of Maryland, the city of Baltimore and by private contributors. It is a reformatory institution where incorrigible boys are committed at the request of their parents. Others are committed for misdemeanors and sundry offenses. The institution provides for a plain, practical English education, and has workshops for mechanical training in the practical branches of industry, many of the boys being engaged in printing, some as wood-workers, and others in the metal-working department. The need of an institution of this character is generally recognized by the citizens of the State. The State of Maryland appropriates the sum of $15,000 annually towards its support. This is followed by an appropriation from the city of Baltimore of about the same amount.

ST. AGNES' HOSPITAL,

is situated on the northwestern suburbs of Baltimore city, in the vicinity of Carroll Station. It was founded in 1863, the original promoters being Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dougherty, who were shortly followed by a handsome contribution from Lady Stafford. The present value of the institution is $250,000. It is in charge of the Sisters of Charity. A wing has recently been added to the original building by Mrs. Whiteford, of Baltimore, as a memorial to her son, Robert Whiteford, who died in the institution in 1890. The new building was erected at a cost of $100,000. This hospital is most complete, with all modern improvements, and can successfully compete with any hospital in the country.

The past General Assemblies of the State have recognized the good work of this worthy institution and have annually appropriated to its support, conditioned upon the institution providing for certain free patients from the respective counties of the State. The city of Baltimore also contributes to the support of this hospital upon conditions similar to those upon which the State appropriation is made. There have been received into this institution since its organization 8,975 persons. The capacity of the building is 175. The General Assembly of Maryland at the session of 1892 appropriated to the hospital the sum of $2,500 annually.

THE HOME OF THE FRIENDLESS,

is situated at the corner of Lafayette and Druid Hill avenues, Baltimore. It is a large brick building, which was erected at a cost of $62,000. It was organized in 1854.

The chief aim of the founders of this institution was to respond to a need for providing a home for the friendless and homeless children, orphans and half-orphans, or the offspring of vagrants. It has been managed since its organization by a board of ladies, who, by close attention and efficient management, have made the institution one of the most prominent charitable institutions in the State. From its opening to the present time there have been received 5,000 children, and homes have been secured for nearly one thousand of this number. The institution has a capacity of about 200 inmates. The present number of beneficiaries is 165. A kindergarten and other educational facilities are successfully conducted. The home knows no denominational creed, being non-sectarian. Its principal source of revenue is derived from private contributions. For many years the State has appropriated different sums towards its maintenance, and the General Assembly of 1892 contributed the sum of $3,000 per annum.

THE INDUSTRIAL HOME FOR COLORED GIRLS,

is situated at Melvale, Baltimore county. It is a reformatory institution, incorporated in 1882. Value of the property is $30,000. The necessity for the establishment of this institution was first suggested by the Maryland Prisoners' Aid Association. Under the act of incorporation of 1882 the General Assembly of Maryland appropriated the sum of $5,000 towards its construction. The object of the home is to provide a place of *reform*, and not of punishment, for incorrigible, vagrant or neglected colored girls, who are received in the institution by commitment or application, the age limit being eighteen years. These commitments are made by the Justices of the Peace of the city of Baltimore or of the counties. The work of the institution has been good, and the industrial department exceedingly successful; the earnings of the girls are estimated at $5,000 annually. There have been in the institution since its organization between four hundred and five hundred inmates. The sum total of the appropriations by the State from 1883 to 1893 is $25,000; the sum total appropriated by the city of Baltimore during the same period, $21,800. The earnings of the girls for contract work and service were $17,292.93. From this showing it would seem that this institution is one is the most successful in the State.

HOME OF THE INCURABLES,

is situated on Twenty-first street and Guilford avenue, in Baltimore city. It was opened in 1884. The building was erected at a cost of $73,000, and has fifty-one rooms. At present the beneficiaries are all females; but the Board of Directors hope with increased resources they will be enabled to erect an additional building for men and children suffering from incurable diseases. The institution is mainly supported by voluntary contributions. It is non-sectarian in character, the only condition for entrance (as far as its limited capacity will allow) being, as its name indicates, "incurable" disease. The State of Maryland in the session of 1892 appropriated the sum of $2,000 per annum. The necessities of an institution of this character for incurable diseases are daily increasing, and it is to be hoped that the capacity of this home may be increased, so as to be able to furnish additional provision for the unfortunate of the State.

BOYS' HOME SOCIETY,

is situated on the corner of Calvert and Pleasant streets, Baltimore. It was founded in 1866, the total cost of the property being $63,000. There have been received into the institution since it was founded 1,921 boys. The capacity of the building is 110. This institution is assisted by private contributions, and receives much substantial aid from the Ladies' Aid Society of the Boys' Home. The necessity of an institution of this character has been recognized, and the city of Baltimore appropriates annually the sum of $3,000, and the State of Maryland $1,000 towards its support.

ST. FRANCIS' COLORED ORPHAN ASYLUM,

is situated on Chase street and Forrest place, Baltimore. It was founded in 1829 through the efforts of the "Oblate Sisters of Providence." The present building cost $89,000. They derive profits from teaching in St. Francis' Academy and from needle-work. About five hundred orphans have been received in the institution since its organization. There are about one hundred beneficiaries at present. The institution is governed by a board of five Sisters elected by the community. It is supported by charity contributions from the people of the city of Baltimore. The State of Maryland at the General Assembly of 1892 appropriated the sum of $500 annually.

THE HOUSE OF REFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION FOR COLORED CHILDREN,

is situated at Cheltenham, Prince George's county, and was incorporated in 1870, the total cost of the building being about $150,000. It was largely erected by private contributions. The State of Maryland appropriated $5,000 annually upon the condition that $30,000 should be subscribed towards its construction. The ground upon which this building is erected was donated by Mr. Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore, and consists of a farm of 700 acres. The building has a capacity for 250 boys. It is an educational and industrial school combined. In addition to the plain English education that is given, the boys are employed at tailoring, baking, shoemaking, carpentering, blacksmithing and other works of industry, calculated to make them useful men when they are discharged from the institution. The large farm attached is used for trucking purposes for the benefit of the institution, some portion being used for general farming. In addition to this, good crops of wheat are grown and marketed each year. There are now 267 boys in the institution, which is the full capacity of the building. The general annual expenses are about $23,000 a year; of this amount the State appropriated for the years 1893 and 1894 the sum of $5,000.

THE NURSERY AND CHILD'S HOSPITAL,

is situated at Franklin and Schroeder streets, Baltimore, and was organized in 1878, the cost of the same, including grounds, being $140,000. The object of this institution is to provide homes for the homeless and abandoned infants, keeping this class of waifs and foundlings until they reach the age of four years, at which age they are transferred to other institutions or provided with homes. There is a free dispensary connected with the institution. The entire work is one of charity, none of its officers, physicians or surgeons receiving compensation. Every penny contributed is expended in the work of the institution, the management of which has been most economical. There were 200 beneficiaries in the year 1893. It is estimated that not less than 2,500 children have been gathered from different parts of the State. The institution is non-sectarian, and is free to the entire State. It is very evident from the cost of the building and the work of the institution that great economy has been exercised, and the efficiency of the Board demonstrated. The General Assembly of 1892 appropriated the sum of $2,500 annually to this institution.

THE HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD,

is situated on Mount and Hollins street, Baltimore. It is a reformatory institution, opened in 1864 in a dwelling then known as the "Donnell Mansion," the entire cost of the new additions to the original property, which was donated by the late Mrs. Emily McTavish, being $179,000. The institution was placed in charge of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, (whence its name is derived), whose lives are devoted entirely to

sheltering and reclaiming unfortunate and abandoned women and girls, as well as protecting and preserving from danger young girls and children without proper parental care and protection. The institution has been enlarged from time to time by contributions and assistance from the State, until it now has a capacity for several hundred inmates.

The work of the institution consists of all kinds of needle-work, from the plainest to the finest, and most exquisite embroidery done by hand. The inmates are principally fallen and abandoned women, many of whom have been committed by the magistrates throughout the State; others have been brought by friends, and some have come voluntarily with a desire to reform.

There is also connected with this institution a department where unprotected girls can have proper training and care. There is also a department for children, who, when they arrive at eighteen years of age, are provided with good homes by the Sisters. By this means many young girls become useful women through the training received in this institution. The total number of inmates in the institution since its organization is 1,975. At present there are 241 inmates. The State of Maryland appropriates $3,000 per annum to its support. The work performed by the Sisters in charge of this institution has certainly been remarkable. Many fallen women have been reformed and others protected in time to save them from temptations that surround them in great cities. There can be no doubt of the wisdom of the General Assembly in assisting this institution.

THE HEBREW HOSPITAL AND ASYLUM ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY.

This association was organized in 1865, and is situated on the corner of Monument and Ann streets, Baltimore. The total cost of the property was $115,000. It is a large, substantial building, with first-class accommodations for the aged sick. This institution does not discriminate as to nationality or creed, but provides alike for the Jew and Gentile. The equipment of the building is admirable and facilities complete. The Board of Managers is very active and efficient. And it is very fortunate for the inmates that they have so comfortable a home. Provision has been made since the organization of the institution for 780 persons. The capacity of the building is seventy-six. It has had a daily average of twenty persons for twenty years or more. It is principally assisted by contributions from charitable Hebrews of Baltimore, and receives small contributions from the city of Baltimore, and an annual appropriation of $2,500 was made by the State of Maryland at the session of 1892.

ST. VINCENT'S INFANT ASYLUM OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE,

is situated on the corner of Division street and Lafayette avenue, Baltimore, and was founded in 1856. The property cost $86,000, and was purchased entirely by private contributions. The object of this institution is to receive and maintain foundlings, infant orphans, and other infant and abandoned children of both sexes; also to provide for deserving indigent and unprotected females during confinement. Children are admitted from one day to six years of age. At times children are committed by Justices of the Peace. Since the foundation of the institution there have been 8,656 infants received, and over one thousand maternity patients. At present there are one hundred and seventy-five children, eight maternity patients, and twelve mothers with infants in the institution. The asylum is under the charge of the Sisters of Charity, and it has long since been recognized as one of the most efficient organizations of its kind in the city of Baltimore. For some years it has received assistance from the State, and the Legislature of 1892 made an annual appropriation of $5,000.

THE HEBRREW ORPHAN ASYLUM OF BALTIMORE.

This institution is situated on North Calhoun street, Baltimore. It was organized in 1872, and was established by private contributions from prominent Hebrews in the city of Baltimore. In 1874 it was destroyed by fire, and was rebuilt at a cost of $50,000. It has a capacity of 150 inmates. Since its existence there have been three hundred orphans sheltered from time to time within its walls. The expenses for maintaining the institution are $15,000 annually; the State appropriating the sum of $2,000, and the remainder being made up by private contributions. The Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society has rendered valuable help to the institution, and it is largely assisted by contributions from the Hebrews of Baltimore, many of whom are much interested in the good work of this institution, and are active in their efforts in its behalf.

THE BALTIMORE CITY HOSPITAL,

is situated on North Calvert street, Baltimore. It was erected in 1889 through the efforts of the Sisters of Mercy, a duly incorporated body under the laws of Maryland. It is situated on ground leased from the city of Baltimore at an annual rental of $1,000; the cost of the building being $150,000. The hospital, although under the management of the Sisters of Mercy, is conducted absolutely upon a non-sectarian plan, and is accessible to all persons within the State, without regard to nationality, creed or color. It has accommodations for 250 inmates. There is an annex building for colored patients, which is under the management of colored physicians and surgeons. Nearly every county in the State has taken advantage of the privilege of sending patients to this institution, and the institution itself has become a necessity indispensable to the city of Baltimore and the State. The State appropriated the sum of $5,000 per annum, with the proviso that the institution shall furnish annually one bed, maintenance and treatment for one patient at a time from each of the senatorial districts of the State of Maryland. It would seem that the State gets value received from the appropriations made in behalf of this institution, which is one of the most complete of its kind in the country.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR.

This institution was organized in 1868, and embraces a square of ground bounded by Preston, Valley, Biddle and McKim streets, upon which has been erected a large building; the total cost of the building being about $150,000. It was chartered in 1854. His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons has been its presiding officer since its foundation, and has associated with him in the management a board of the worthy Sisters of Charity. The institution has a capacity for 300 persons. No distinction is made as to religion or nationalty. Within the past few years a large wing has been erected for colored persons. The total number of poor who have been provided for in this institution is 1,309, being 618 men and 691 women. There are at present 275 beneficiaries. This institution is largely supported by private contributions and by the solicitations of the Sisters amongst the residents of the city of Baltimore. They have also been fortunate in receiving a few legacies. The city of Baltimore has appropriated to this institution, all told, about $3,000, and the State of Maryland about $5,000. The General Assembly of 1892 made a small contribution of $1,000 per annum towards this very worthy charity. The work of this institution and the system by which it is supported is most creditable to the management, and has been the means of rendering great assistance to the poor and afflicted within our midst.

THE GERMAN AGED PEOPLE'S HOME,

situated at the corner of Baltimore and Payson streets, Baltimore, cost $65,000. This institution, although organized by citizens of German birth, makes no discrimination in the admission of applicants as to nationality or creed. In the erection of the building the Board of Directors were largely assisted by the Ladies' Aid Society, an auxiliary to the Board of Directors. Since the construction of the building there have been 131 beneficiaries. This institution is presided over by a careful Board of Managers, who are very active and energetic in their efforts to provide for the aged and infirm who have been so very fortunate as to find this comfortable home in their declining years. The annual expenses of this institution are $6,000, which amount is largely made up by contributions; the General Assembly of Maryland appropriating the sum of $1,500 per annum. The necessities for an institution of this character to provide for the aged men and women of our State are well recognized, and it would seem that the action of the General Assembly of 1892 in assisting this institution cannot be questioned.

THE GENERAL GERMAN ORPHAN ASYLUM OF BALTIMORE CITY,

situated on Aisquith street, near Orleans street, Baltimore, was organized in 1886, the cost of the property being about $85,000. Since the organization of this institution there have been 573 orphan children received, and there are at present 110 beneficiaries.

The work of this institution has been honestly and faithfully performed, and many of the unfortunate have been provided with homes in families within the city and State. By the training in the asylum, and the general *surveillance* by the officers and managers of the institution, many of the orphans, who have reached their majority, have become industrious and worthy citizens. The State of Maryland, through the General Assembly of 1892, made an appropriation of $2,000 per annum, which seems to have been carefully and prudently expended under the efficient Board of Managers, and which appropriation was a contribution to a worthy charity.

THE ASYLUM AND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR THE FEEBLE-MINDED,

situated near Owing's Mills, Baltimore county, was incorporated in 1888. It consists of a farm of 186 acres, with buildings. This is a State institution exclusively, the State having appropriated at different times the sum of $21,000 for the purchase of the property and the erection of the buildings. The institution was intended to provide for the feeble-minded children, boys and girls, of the State. There have been seventy-one feeble-minded children received in the institution since it was established, and there are at present fifty-one beneficiaries. The capacity of the building is sixty-four, male and female, and many applicants are refused for want of facilities.

The object of the institution is to provide a home for the poor unfortunates, and to teach them, as far as practicable, reading, writing and arithmetic, as far as they are able to receive the same. The boys are taught the ordinary industries of the farm, and it is the intention of the Board in time to erect workshops in which they can be trained in the industries that are ordinarily taken up in public institutions. The girls are taught sewing, knitting, etc. The last census of Maryland reports that the feeble-minded in the State would number between eight hundred and a thousand. So it is evident that the State must begin to provide more extensively for this class of unfortunates, as other States of the North and West have been forced to do. The annual appropriation to this institution is $6,000, which amount seems to have been carefully and judiciously expended under the present board of management.

HOSPITAL OF THE WOMEN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE OF BALTIMORE,

was incorporated in 1882, and is situated on the corner of McCulloh and Hoffman streets, Baltimore. It has accommodations for twenty-five patients. The number treated since the establishment of the hospital is 934. The number of out-door patients is 23,238. The majority of the in-door patients are admitted owing to injuries and surgical diseases; railroad, machinery and other accidents. The cost of the present building was $6,500. The General Assembly of 1892 appropriated the sum of $1,500 annually, upon the condition that the said hospital should receive from each county in the State and from each legislative district in Baltimore City, one free patient at a time each year upon the certificate of the County Commissioners of each county, and the Board of Health of the city of Baltimore.

THE FEMALE HOUSE OF REFUGE,

was incorporated in 1866. It is a reformatory institution for young girls, situated at the corner of Baker and Carey streets, Baltimore. It cost about $60,000, of which amount the State gave $10,000, and the remainder was made up from private contributions from benevolent citizens of the city of Baltimore. They have had in their charge since the erection of the building 583 girls, who are taught the ordinary English branches, housework, sewing, moral and religious training, and a system of work has been adopted by which the girls are trained in woman's industries, and they receive a large percentage of their earnings from the sales of the work, which amount is deposited in Savings Banks to their credit. They are regularly graded according to merit, and whenever deemed prudent are placed in good homes, or returned to their relatives. Some, of course, return to their former evil lives, but a large proportion are permanently reformed. The present building will accommodate something over one hundred, giving each one a separate sleeping apartment. The average number of inmates is about seventy. This institution is assisted annually by the State of Maryland, and by the city of Baltimore. The State appropriation in 1892 was $5,000 per annum.

ST. MARY'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS,

is situated in Baltimore county on the suburbs of the Southwestern section of Baltimore city. It was incorporated in 1866. The inception of the movement which led to the construction of this institution was conceived by the late Archbishop Spaulding of Baltimore, who was much impressed with the necessity of some institution being provided for the care, custody and training of boys who had become incorrigible for want of proper discipline, or who on account of having committed misdemeanors or other offenses against the laws of the Commonwealth, were liable to be committed to penal institutions.

The institution is built of granite, and is one of the largest charitable institutions in the State. The original cost was $183,000. It is situated on a farm of 130 acres of land, most of which was donated. The building erected on the property has a capacity for 600 or more boys, who are employed in knitting, tailoring, printing, carpentering, shoemaking, manual labor on the farm, etc. Connected with the institution is a school where boys are given the advantages of a plain English education, so as to enable them to engage in such business occupation as is best suited to their capacity.

The total number of boys received since its organization is 3,327. The number now in the institution is about 425. This school has been assisted for a number of years by the General Assembly of Maryland, who recognized the good work it was performing, it being one of the best institutions of its kind in the country. At the session of 1892 the General Assembly appropriated the sum of $1,500 per annum.

THE HOSPITAL FOR THE WOMEN OF MARYLAND,

is situated on Lafayette avenue and John street, Baltimore, and was incorporated in 1882. It cost about $40,000. The purposes of the contributors to this institution was to provide suitable quarters for the treatment of the diseases of the women of Maryland, where the best medical and surgical skill could be secured, and the facilities furnished to give the most effect to the work of the distinguished physicians who had tendered their services to the institution.

Accommodations have been provided for about fifty patients. The larger portion of the institution is devoted to the treatment of those who are unable to pay for the medical attention, who are known as "free" patients. The hospital is open to all poor women of Maryland free of charge. Those coming from without the State are required to pay moderate rates for board, lodging and attendance. The revenues from these pay patients assist in defraying the expenses of the free ward. There have been treated in this institution since its organization, in 1882, about 12,000 women, many of them being visiting patients. And there have been living in the institution within that time 1,200; treated at the dispensary, 10,500; number of operations, 732.

The institution is largely supported by private contributions from the citizens of the city of Baltimore, who are interested in the good work that is being so well performed by the distinguished surgeons and others who have it in charge. The surgical services rendered are gratuitous, to all patients who are unable to bear the expense of treatment. The total receipts for the past year were $10,220, of which amount the General Assembly of Maryland of 1892 appropriated the sum of $2,000 per annum.

The necessity for an institution of this character is evidenced by the large number of patients who have been treated since its organization, and this is certainly one of the most worthy charities which the State has seen proper to assist.

ST. MARY'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM,

is situated in the vicinity of Hampden, Baltimore. It was founded in 1817 and was erected at a cost of about $100,000, and is in charge of the Sisters of Charity. It is a home for destitute orphan girls from the ages of seven to fourteen. After fourteen years of age they are transferred to other institutions to learn some means of support, and, when possible, are placed in suitable homes.

The revenues of the institution are derived from appropriations from the State and the City of Baltimore, and by contributions donated to the asylum. There are 225 children from the city and State now in this institution. Two hundred and fifty is the full capacity of the building. There have been 1,965 children received and cared for since the foundation of the asylum. This institution is one of the best of the kind in the State, and its work was recognized by the session of the General Assembly in 1892 by an annual appropriation of $5,000.

THE BALTIMORE ORPHAN ASYLUM

is situated at Stricker and Lexington streets. The cost of the property as it now stands was $40,000. It was organized in 1778, and incorporated in 1801. The estimated number of inmates in this institution since its foundation is 2,000. The capacity of the institution is 175; the number of inmates at present, 110. This institution is claimed to be the oldest non-sectarian charitable institution in the United States. In view of the good work accomplished, the citizens of Maryland have just cause to be proud of it.

The income of the asylum is derived principally from annual donations, and from the interest on its invested funds, consisting of legacies which have been bequeathed to it from time to time.

The total receipts during last year were $7,363.97. The General Assembly of 1892, for the first time in seven years, appropriated the sum of $2,000 to assist in repairing and improving the buildings. The amount seems to have been economically expended, and the institution is in every way a credit to its efficient Board of Managers. The appropriation referred to being an assistance to a worthy charity was not misplaced.

THE BALTIMORE DAY NURSERY,

was incorporated in 1888, and is situated in the eastern section of the city of Baltimore; at the corner of Patterson Park avenue and Gough street. This institution although recently incorporated has been doing good work. The quarters now being used as a nursery are rented. Since its organization in 1888 there have been 46,311 clothed, fed, and otherwise cared for at the nursery. The object of this institution is largely to take charge of children whose mothers are obliged to work at the various industries in the city during the day, and who are unable to provide the necessary food for their families. The institution is largely sustained by private contributions from benevolent citizens of the city of Baltimore. The nursery has been carefully and economically managed. The State of Maryland at the session of 1892 appropriated the sum of $1,000 per annum, and it seems a worthy charity. Upon examination of the report of the Board of Directors it would seem that this is a worthy institution, and that good work is being performed which will likely be enlarged as its benefits are more thoroughly understood and appreciated.

CONCLUSION.

I have, as briefly as possible, called your attention to the various matters of importance, the financial condition of the State, its institutions, and some of its industries.

While I have not been able to give to all of these subjects the ample consideration which their importance

demands, I confidently refer them to you, relying upon your wise discretion and conscientious desire to faithfully serve the people of this conservative Commonwealth.

FRANK BROWN.

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